

CLAIMS: The following is a listing of all claims in the application with their status and the text of all active claims.

1. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] A system for facilitating the comprehension of a target language, wherein

~~[said target language is a foreign language or is a native language for the user,]~~

said system is applied over one or more samples of such target language,

said system is embodied in at least one computerized system,

said system ~~[comprises the following means]~~ comprises:

- ~~[(a) a data store]~~ a memory unit that contains at least one sample of said target language,

- a display,

- ~~[(b)]~~ a processing unit ~~[with means to query said data store,]~~ capable to retrieve said sample of target language and to present it in said display in such a way that the vertical position of a group of words which is located between two surrounding words of said language sample is higher or lower than the vertical position of said two words,

~~[(c) means to present said language sample in a display by using graphical characters, and~~

~~(d) means to adjust the vertical position of the graphical characters that correspond to a group of words which are located between two words of said language sample, said group of words being called an "internal phrase"~~

~~so that the vertical position of said graphical characters that correspond to the words of said internal phrase is different from the vertical position that they would have had if said graphical character would have been presented in a standard word by word and line by line text arrangement,]~~

wherein

~~[applying the previous means to the words of a phrase is termed "increasing the presentation level" of said phrase,]~~

the graphical structure that is so presented to the user in said display is termed "escalator structure", and

the end result facilitates the comprehension of the structure of said language sample, facilitates the comprehension of the meaning of said language sample, and also facilitates learning said language when learning is sought by the user.

2. [DELETED]

3. [DELETED]

4. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] A system as claimed in claim 1, ~~[further comprising means]~~ wherein said processing unit is capable to identify [and select] the minimal chosen phrase of a position, and to select said minimal chosen phrase in said display wherein the minimal chosen phrase of a position is the chosen phrase that covers that position and that does not contain any other chosen phrase that covers that position.

5. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] A system as claimed in claim 1, ~~[further comprising means]~~ wherein said processing unit is capable to identify [and select] the chosen phrase that is the parent of the chosen phrase that is selected at a given moment and to select said parent phrase in said display.

6. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] A system as claimed in claim 1, ~~[further comprising means for collapsing or expanding chosen phrases,]~~ wherein said processing unit is capable to collapse or expand a chosen phrase, wherein

(a) said collapsing reduces the presentation level of said chosen phrase, [produces the effect that the collapsed phrase reduces the presentation level of at least one of its embedded phrases, wherein reducing the presentation level means to remove said group of characters and insert back said words of a phrase that were removed,] and

(b) said expanding increases the presentation level of said chosen phrase. [produces the effect that the chosen phrase increases the presentation level of at least one of its embedded phrases.]

7. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~[it is possible to enable and disable different types of phrases,]~~ at least one chosen phrase is disabled wherein ~~[such]~~ said disabling produces the effect that said chosen phrase [phrases that are disabled] does not appear as [phrases] a phrase in said escalator tree even [though they are] if it is assigned an embedding level.

8. [DELETED]

9. [DELETED]

10. [DELETED].

11. [DELETED]

12. [DELETED]

13. [DELETED]

14. [DELETED]

15. [DELETED]

16. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said escalator tree is built by using computer text controls that contain the full language sample, said text controls placed in vertical fashion in the window, so that there exist at least as many controls as different presentation levels, and wherein some groups of words in some controls have the same color as the background color, so that ~~[they give the impression that]~~ said groups of words ~~[do not exist]~~ are not visible thereby producing the effect that some words have a different level than other words.

17. [DELETED]

18. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the levels of the words in the escalator tree are codified by the utilization of different types of special delimiter characters in said text fragment, so that some types of delimiter characters indicate a change of level, and others do not indicate a change of level, wherein a given type of delimiter characters is assigned a level change of a given magnitude, and wherein said delimiter characters are control characters which are not shown in the escalator tree.
19. [DELETED]
20. [DELETED]
21. [DELETED]
22. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] A method for facilitating the comprehension of a target language, wherein
~~[said target language is a foreign language or a native language for the user,]~~
said method is applied over one or more samples of such target language,
said method is executed upon in at least one computerized system,
said system comprises the following ~~[means]~~ steps:
- ~~[(a) providing a data store]~~ providing a memory unit that contains at least one sample of said target language,
- providing a display,
- providing a processing unit,
- retrieving said target language sample from said memory unit,
~~[(b) querying said data store to obtain at least one language sample,]~~
- ~~[(c)]~~ presenting said target language sample in [a] said display [by using graphical characters,] in such a way that the vertical position of a group of words which is located between two surrounding words of said language sample is higher or lower than the vertical position of said two words,
~~[(d) adjusting the vertical position of the graphical characters that correspond to a group of words which are located between two words of said language sample, said group of words being called an "internal phrase"]~~

~~[so that the vertical position of said graphical characters that correspond to the words of said internal phrase is different from the vertical position that they would have had if said graphical character would have been presented in a standard word by word and line by line text arrangement;]~~

wherein

~~[applying the previous method to the words of a phrase is termed "increasing the presentation level" of said phrase;]~~

the graphical structure that is so presented to the user in said display is termed "escalator structure", and

the end result facilitates the comprehension of the structure of said language sample, facilitates the comprehension of the meaning of said language sample, and also facilitates learning said language when learning is sought by the user.

23. [DELETED]

24. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] A method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising the steps of identifying ~~[and selecting]~~ the minimal chosen phrase of a position, and selecting said minimal chosen phrase in said display

wherein the minimal chosen phrase of a position is the chosen phrase that covers that position and that does not contain any other chosen phrase that covers that position.

25. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] A method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising the steps of identifying ~~[and selecting]~~ the chosen phrase that is the parent of the chosen phrase that is selected at a given moment and selecting said parent phrase in said display.

26. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] A method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising the steps of collapsing [œ] and expanding chosen phrases, wherein

- (a) said collapsing reduces the presentation level of said chosen phrase, ~~[produces the effect that the collapsed phrase reduces the presentation level of at least one of its embedded phrases, wherein reducing the presentation level means to remove said group of characters and insert back said words of a phrase that were removed,]~~ and
- (b) said expanding increases the presentation level of said chosen phrase. ~~[produces the effect that the chosen phrase increases the presentation level of at least one of its embedded phrases.]~~

27. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] A method as claimed in claim 22, wherein at least one chosen phrase is disabled, wherein said disabling produces the effect that said chosen phrase does not appear as a phrase in said escalator tree even if it is assigned an embedding level. ~~[further comprising the steps of enabling and disabling different types of phrases, where such disabling produces the effect that said chosen phrases that are disabled do not appear as phrases even though they are assigned an embedding level.]~~

28. [DELETED]

29. [DELETED]

30. [DELETED].

31. [DELETED]

32. [DELETED]

33. [DELETED]

34. [DELETED]

35. [DELETED]

36. [DELETED]

37. [CURRENTLY AMENDED] A method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the levels of the words in the escalator tree are codified by the utilization of different types of special delimiter characters in said text fragment, so that some types of delimiter characters indicate a change of level, and others do not indicate a change of level, where a given type of delimiter characters is assigned a level change of a given magnitude, and wherein said delimiter characters are control characters which are not shown in the escalator tree.

38. [DELETED]

39. [DELETED]

40. [DELETED]

41. [DELETED]

42. [DELETED]

43. [DELETED]

44. [DELETED]

45. [DELETED]

46. [DELETED]

47. [NEW] A non-transitory computer-readable medium storing a set of structured language samples so that, when said language samples are retrieved by a computer, said computer presents said target language sample in said display in such a way that the vertical position of a group of words which is located between two surrounding words of said language sample is higher or lower than the vertical position of said two words.

48. [NEW] A non-transitory computer-readable medium storing a program that, when executed by a computer, said computer performs the following steps:

- retrieving a sample of a target language from a memory unit,
- presenting said target language sample in a display in such a way that the vertical position of a group of words which is located between two surrounding words of said language sample is higher or lower than the vertical position of said two words.